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## IT'S COMING UP ROSES AT ANNUAL SAHUARO RANCH PARK ROSE PRUNING EVENT

**Glendale, Ariz.** — The Rose Society of Glendale, along with Glendale Parks and Recreation, will offer the free annual rose pruning event "It's Coming Up Roses" from 8 a.m. to noon, Saturday, Jan. 4 at the Sahuaro Ranch Park Historic Area, 9802 N. 59<sup>th</sup> Ave., to the public.

Event attendees will be able to help prune existing rose bushes and help plant and transplant additional rose bushes beginning at 8 a.m. Two seminars available at 9 and 11 a.m., will cover pruning, planting, transplanting, choosing roses, watering and more. Each seminar will follow with a question and answer session and demonstrations.

Booths from the Glendale Historical Society, Sahuaro Ranch Park Historic Area, Rose Society of Glendale, Glendale Water Conservation Department and West Valley Master Gardeners will have information and brochures, along with volunteers and staff from the organizations to answer questions.

Tyler Francis, the owner of Francis Roses, will speak about easy-care roses from 8:15 to 8:40 a.m. Michael Francis founded Francis Roses in 1989 on a 10-acre plot in the West Valley that yielded 200,000 plants in the first crop. Today, the Francis Roses farm has grown to 2,000 acres, producing more than 4.5 million bare-root rose bushes annually. With a Bachelor of Science and Masters of Applied Economics, Tyler Francis has utilized his business background to imprint significant changes to the Arizona rose industry, including designing the first ever underground drip irrigation system for roses in Arizona and implementing more sustainable precision farming techniques to make his farm "green." During the last two years, Francis's has been working toward the goal of bringing the rose back to American gardens and has sought out breeders, curators and rose enthusiasts to find rose varieties that are pest and disease resistant, beautiful and easy to care for.

At 8:40 a.m. Glendale Mayor Jerry Weiers and Councilmember Gary Sherwood will make remarks. Also, the volunteers and partners will be acknowledge and Glendale Civic Pride, Berridge Nursery and the Glendale Historical Society will be recognized as donors.

For more information, visit [www.glendaleaz.com/srpha](http://www.glendaleaz.com/srpha).

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